

decisions to guaranty loans. Under the bill, health information technology loans will be guaranteed 90 percent by the SBA, a factor that will encourage robust lender participation in the program.

Health IT has the potential to reduce costs and medical errors, while encouraging greater efficiency. It will be an essential component of our efforts to reform health care.

However, to use health IT most effectively, we must first address three barriers to its widespread adoption: technical standards and interoperability, workforce training, and the realignment of financial incentives.

This bill can help to address a part of the third, which involves the cost of implementation.

I have long believed that we should continue to look at ways that we can create more incentives for small practice doctors to adopt health information technology. It's important to note that 80 percent of all outpatient visits take place in practices with 10 or fewer doctors. It is essential that these practices receive the assistance they need in order to be able to implement health IT.

The larger barrier to health IT adoption is that its associated costs and benefits are not realized equally between health care providers and payors. The financial benefit of health IT accrues to the payor—the insurer—while providers are the parties most likely to bear the cost.

The challenges of implementing health IT vary greatly from large health systems to smaller medical practices. Small medical practices, which may have to incur initial costs of up to \$200,000—around \$40,000 per physician—for a system, may see little, if any, financial benefit from its applications. It's no wonder health IT has a deployment rate of less than 20 percent in these offices.

I have been working with the Education and Labor Committee and leadership to address this issue in health care reform moving forward.

H.R. 3854 will provide financial assistance to these small practices, and I wholeheartedly support this legislation.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEAS OF THE THIRD ANNUAL BLOOD MANAGEMENT AWARENESS WEEK

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the beginning of the third annual Blood Management Awareness Week. November 2nd through November 6th has been designated as Blood Management Awareness Week by the Society for the Advancement of Blood Management. This event is dedicated to educating patients and healthcare workers about blood management and blood issues.

Blood management is the appropriate provision and use of blood and its components and derivatives, and strategies to reduce or avoid the need for a blood transfusion. Optimal patient blood management employs technology and techniques to decrease blood loss and to enhance blood cell production. It reduces risks

and costs associated with blood transfusion through transfusion-free medical and surgical techniques.

I would also like to recognize the important work of Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, which is located in my congressional district, to further the goals and ideals of this important event. The Hospital's Institute for Patient Blood Management and Bloodless Medicine and Surgery is a world-renowned leader in patient blood management. I commend the physicians of the Institute for their commitment to improving patient outcomes and educating the medical community about best practices in blood management.

RECOGNIZING FAYE SCHNEIDEWIND FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO JERRY'S DRIVE-IN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Faye Schneidewind upon the occasion of her 50th year of loyal service to Jerry's Drive-In, a Pensacola, Florida, landmark. Miss Faye is an intimate part of the fabric of our northwest Florida community, and I am proud to recognize her on this achievement.

Faye Schneidewind grew up in Pensacola and still lives only a few blocks from Jerry's. The 80-year-old great-grandmother started working as a waitress at the diner when she was just 21. After a few years away, Miss Faye returned to Jerry's on November 5, 1959, her sister's birthday. She has been serving the customers at Jerry's ever since. Miss Faye knows just about everyone who walks through the doors at Jerry's, and always provides a warm smile, a hot meal, and good conversation. She is as much a part of the history of Jerry's as memorabilia stretching across its walls.

Jerry's Drive-In is a truly family restaurant. Originally named Jerry's Barbeque, Jerry's Drive-In was opened by Jerry Glass in 1939. Raymond "Grandpa" Wessel purchased the restaurant in the early 1950's with his son Bill. The Wessels lived in an apartment above the restaurant. Even after the restaurant was sold, Mr. Wessel continued to maintain his residence above Jerry's. Robert, Jimmy, and Pam Halstead bought Jerry's in 1997 and have continued its tradition of great food and great service.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize Faye Schneidewind on 50 years of dedicated service to Jerry's Drive-In. She is and always will be an invaluable part of our Pensacola heritage. My wife Vicki and I wish Miss Faye, her daughter, her two granddaughters, her nine grandchildren, and her entire extended family at Jerry's all the best for continued success.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY SUTTON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 783 to recognize Hispanic Heritage Month. This resolution celebrates the vast contributions that Hispanic-Americans have made to the history, values and culture of our great nation.

Since the arrival of the earliest Spanish settlers more than 400 years ago, millions of Hispanic men and women have come to the U.S. from Europe, Central and South America, Puerto Rico and Cuba in search of freedom, peace and opportunity.

Their commitment to these American principles has contributed immensely to the prosperity and cultural development of our nation.

With a population totaling 47.5 million, Hispanics represent the fastest-growing ethnic group in America.

According to a 2000 U.S. Census Bureau report, three of the top 10 counties with the highest Hispanic population in the country lie at least partly within Ohio's 13th District.

More than 24,000 Hispanics and Latinos reside in my district, representing nearly 4 percent of the population. In the city of Lorain, Hispanics make up 20 percent of the population.

And, like all Americans today, Latinos remain focused on the economy and its recovery.

Hispanic-Americans in my district are supported by community centered organizations, such as El Centro de Servicios Sociales.

Located in the City of Lorain, El Centro is a Hispanic-Latino non-profit advocacy organization. It works to provide social, educational, cultural and development services that are essential to members of our communities.

Our country's success rests on the longstanding ideal that anyone—regardless of ethnicity, gender, race or religion—can achieve the American dream.

With Hispanic culture rooted deeply in my district, I am proud to celebrate the contributions and heritage of our country's Hispanic community. And, it is my honor to serve Hispanic Americans as a member of Congress.

RECOGNIZING ARTE MORENO, RECIPIENT OF THE 2009 GUIDING LIGHT PHILANTHROPY AWARD

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arte Moreno, who has been honored by the Tempe Community Council with this year's Guiding Light Philanthropy Award. The Tempe Community Council seeks to recognize individuals who have a direct impact on the success of Tempe programs and services through generous financial support, and Arte's contributions to the community have been outstanding.

As a lifelong resident and former mayor of Tempe, I am incredibly proud of Arte's incredibly generous gift to the Tempe Community